



Commander's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Policy Letter



The purpose of this policy is to eliminate the occurrence of sexual assaults, ensure due process for offenders, and to provide appropriate care to victims.

Per Marine Corps Order 1752.5B, sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. Sexual assault include rape, forcible sodomy (oral or anal sex), and other unwanted sexual contact that is aggravated, abusive, or wrongful (including unwanted and inappropriate sexual contact), or attempts to commit these acts.

Sexual assault is a criminal act that is not restricted by age or gender. Sexual assault impedes unit or members' morale, effectiveness, efficiency, and negatively impairs the ability of the Marine Corps to function. **Sexual assault will not be tolerated.**

Failure to report or ignoring sexual assault incidents will have damaging consequences for both victims and our organizations. Appropriate legal or administrative action will be taken against violators.

Victims of sexual assault will be protected through fair, conscientious, and unbiased treatment as individuals. In this fair and equitable treatment, leaders must recognize that both genders can be sexual assault victims. Victims will promptly and continuously receive appropriate medical care and counseling services. Victims of sexual assault may request transfer to another command if the perpetrator is in their unit. Victims can file reports through unrestricted or restricted means, in either case the command's top priority will be the safety and care of the victim.

In unrestricted reporting, the chain of command will be notified and a criminal investigation will be opened. Only those with a legitimate need to know will be informed of the victim's identity in unrestricted reporting.

In restricted reporting, the chain of command is not notified, but the victim is still afforded the maximum medical care and counseling services. Victims can file restricted reports only through specific individuals, to include a Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA) or Base Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC).

To report a sexual assault speak to a UVA, SARC: (808) 257-7777, Civilian Victim Advocate: (808) 257-7777, or call the 24/7 Sexual Assault Prevention and Resource Support Line: (808) 216-0126.

J. SALAME